

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Roger et al.

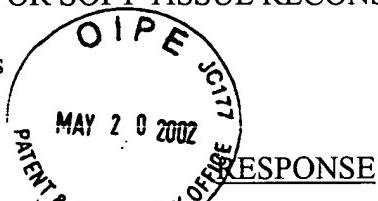
Art Unit : 3738

Serial No. : 09/657,379

Examiner : Willse, D.

Filed : September 8, 2000

Title : METHOD FOR SOFT TISSUE RECONSTRUCTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the action mailed December 18, 2001, please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at the beginning of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation of co-pending application Serial Number 08/801,240 filed on February 19, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,235,057, which is a continuation of application Serial Number 08/614,904 filed on March 13, 1996, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application Serial Number 08/378,246 filed on January 24, 1995, now abandoned. --

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 30 as follows.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 18 for the reconstruction of an anterior cruciate ligament of the patient, wherein forming the hole includes forming the hole in a femur from a suitable point in an intercondylar notch in said femur anteriorly and laterally; and the natural tendon or ligament of the graft is pressed directly and firmly against the sidewall of said hole in said femur, the fixation screw device being cannulated and having a screw thread which is devoid of an outermost cutting line and is substantially nontapered, the fixation screw device having a hemispherical head at an end thereof.

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Amend b
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